

IN THE US PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

November 27, 2006

Applicants: Armin Diez et al.

Title : AT LEAST SUBSTANTIALLY METALLIC CYLINDER HEAD GASKET

Serial No.: 10/773,704

Examiner: Lee

Filed : Feb. 6, 2004

Confirmation No. 8289

Group: 3673

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL IDS

Dear Sir:

Applicants enclose herewith Form 1449 listing US Patent 6 036 195 which Applicants ask the Examiner to consider and make of record herein.

This document discloses the combination of a strictly circular bead A13 or B15 with a meandering (corrugated) bead A14 or B16 or B16'. Beads A13, A14 surround an oil hole H0, and beads B15, B16 (or B16') surround a combustion chamber opening. However, the '195 patent teaches that the corrugated bead is an outer bead; i.e., the corrugated bead is disposed radially outside of the strictly circular bead and not between the latter and the hole or opening to be sealed.

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Further, the corrugated bead is not and cannot be a stopper bead for delimiting the elastic deformation of the circular bead; i.e., for allowing some elastic deformation of the circular bead because the corrugated bead has the same height as the circular bead (see Fig. 5a) along the entire length of the corrugated bead, and in the embodiment shown in Fig. 5b, the corrugated bead B16' has a height greater than the height of the circular bead B15.

Finally, the '195 patent does not disclose Applicants' claimed feature that in a plan view of the deformed sheet metal layer of Applicants' gasket, the total area occupied by the second bead is at least equal to half of the total area occupied by the delimiting device. In particular, the meander loops of the corrugated beads of the '195 patent are not so "densely packed" as the loops of the meandering bead of the present invention and as set forth in pending claim 24. Therefore, the corrugated beads disclosed by the '195 patent are not sufficiently resistant to pressure in order to serve the purpose of a stopper bead.

Applicants petition and request that the examiner consider the '195 patent and make it of record herein.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee for the Supplemental IDS to my deposit account No. 20-1124.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward J. Timmer', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Edward J. Timmer

Reg. No. 27 402

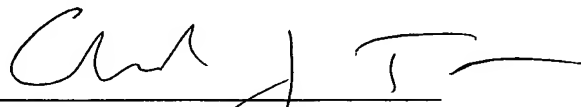
Enclosures: Form 1449

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service under 37 CFR 1.8 as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 28, 2006.



Edward J. Timmer

